

Application No. 10/720,937
Amendment dated November 18, 2005
After Final Office Action of June 21, 2005

Docket No.: BA1-02-0914 (02-0914)

REMARKS

Claims 1-63 were pending in the patent application when an Office Action was mailed on June 21, 2005. Claims 1, 2, 14, 26, 27, and 34 were rejected. Claims 3-13, 15-25, 28-33, and 35-45 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 46-63 were allowed. The Examiner is thanked for indication of allowable subject matter. The Office Action was made Final.

Applicant has incorporated allowable subject matter from Claim 3 into Claim 1 and from Claim 28 into Claim 26. Thus, Applicant very respectfully submits that this Amendment places all claims pending in this patent application in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant submits that entry of this Amendment After Final Action is proper. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the Amendment, allowance of all claims pending in this patent application, and passage of the patent application to issuance.

I. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 14, 26, 27, and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,463,701 to Pickett et al.

Applicant has incorporated allowable subject matter from Claim 3 into Claim 1 and from Claim 28 into Claim 26. Claims 2 (from which Claim 3 depends), 3, and 28 have been cancelled. Claim 4 has been amended to change its dependency from now-cancelled Claim 3 to Claim 1, not to narrow the claim or for any reason related to patentability.

Thus, Applicant very respectfully submits that this Amendment renders moot the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 14, 26, 27, and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and places Claims 1, 4-27, and 29-63 that remain pending in this patent application in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant submits that entry of this Amendment After Final Action is proper. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the Amendment After Final Action, allowance of Claims 1, 4-27, and

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29-63 that remain pending in this patent application, and passage of the patent application to issuance.

II. CONCLUSION

Applicant has incorporated allowable subject matter from Claim 3 into Claim 1 and from Claim 28 into Claim 26, thereby rendering moot the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Applicant respectfully submits that this Amendment After Final Action places Claims 1, 4-27, and 29-63 that remain pending in this patent application in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant submits that entry of this Amendment After Final Action is proper. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the Amendment After Final Action, allowance of Claims 1, 4-27, and 29-63 that remain pending in this patent application, and passage of the patent application to issuance.

Dated: November 18, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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